

(Washington, DC)— The U.S. House of Representatives passed two bipartisan measures both cosponsored by Congresswoman Gwen Moore (D-Milwaukee) in response to last week's catastrophic 7.0 magnitude earthquake centered near Haiti's capital Port-au-Prince.

The first measure would allow Americans who donate to Haiti relief efforts by March 1 of this year to claim that contribution as a deduction on their 2009 tax returns instead of having to wait until next year. Congress passed similar legislation in early 2005 after a tsunami struck Sri Lanka.

The second measure is a resolution expressing American solidarity with the people of Haiti as they recover and rebuild from this disaster. It also urges the President to continue coordinating with Haiti during and after its recovery.

Congresswoman Moore said, "The generosity of the American people after Haiti's devastating earthquake – even in these tough economic times – has amazed me. The people of Haiti have a long road to recovery ahead of them, and I am proud that we are responding swiftly to help."

Yesterday, Congresswoman Moore met with the Haitian Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Raymond Joseph, and was updated on relief efforts.

At a birthday party for State Representatives Annette Polly Williams and Fred Kessler last weekend, Congresswoman Moore, State Representatives Williams and Kessler and Alderman Willie Wade helped raise approximately \$1,000 for American Red Cross relief efforts in Haiti.

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For an interview with Congresswoman Gwen Moore, please contact David Frey at 202-225-4572.